

Alberta takes steps to safely return to normal | L'Alberta prend des mesures pour un retour à la normale sécuritaire

Provincewide public health measures will be gradually lifted as the fifth wave of COVID-19 subsides and pressure on the health-care system eases.

On this page:

- [Step one](#)
- [Step two](#)
- [Step three](#)
- [Related information](#)
- [Multimedia](#)
- [Première étape](#)
- [Deuxième étape](#)
- [Troisième étape](#)
- [Renseignements connexes](#)
- [Multimédia](#)

Update on COVID-19 – February 8, 2022



Alberta will begin a careful and prudent plan to phase out public health measures, starting Feb. 8. The three-step approach will begin with lower-risk activities while maintaining protections for the health-care system, including continuing care facilities.

Beginning Feb. 8 at 11:59 p.m., Alberta will move to step one, which includes the removal of the Restrictions Exemption Program and capacity limits on venues under 500 capacity, including libraries and places of worship, and allows for food and beverage consumption in seated audience settings for large events and entertainment venues. Mandatory masking for children and youth in schools, and for youth aged 12 and under in any setting will end Feb. 13 at 11:59 p.m.

“The last two years have taken a significant toll on Albertans’ overall health, social and economic well-being. Now that we are through the worst of the fifth wave and have achieved high vaccination rates, it is time to shift to a balanced approach where we are able to live with COVID-19 and return to normal.”

Jason Kenney, Premier

“The vast majority of Albertans are now fully vaccinated. It’s a major factor that now allows us to ease restrictions, but we will do so only as conditions show that our health system’s capacity is recovering. Albertans can help make that possible by getting every vaccine dose they are eligible for.”

Jason Copping, Health Minister

Subsequent steps will see changes to working from home, masking requirements, large venue capacity limits and indoor social gathering limits, with a final step removing isolation requirements and COVID-specific measures in continuing care settings. The lifting of restrictions will progress once pressures on the health-care system have sufficiently eased.

Step one

Effective Feb. 8 at 11:59 p.m.:

- Restrictions Exemption Program (REP) ends, along with most associated restrictions.
- Entertainment venues will continue to have some specific rules in place:
 - Restrictions on sale of food and beverages and consumption while seated in audience settings will be removed.
 - Restrictions on closing times, alcohol service, table capacity in restaurants and interactive activities will remain in force.
- For all businesses, venues and facilities – whether they were previously eligible for the REP or not – capacity limits are removed, except for:

- Facilities with capacity of 500 to 1,000, which will be limited to 500.
- Facilities with capacity of 1,000-plus, which will be limited to 50 per cent.

Effective at 11:59 p.m. on Feb. 13:

- Masks will no longer be required for all children and youth in schools.
- Masks will no longer be required in any setting for children aged 12 and under.

Step two

Effective March 1 (based on hospitalization rates continuing to trend downwards):

- Any remaining provincial school requirements (including cohorting) will be removed.
- Screening prior to youth activities will no longer be required.
- Capacity limits will be lifted for all venues.
- Limits on social gatherings will be removed.
- Provincial mask mandate will be removed.
- Mandatory work from home removed.

Step three

To be determined based on hospitalization rates continuing to trend downwards

- COVID-specific measures in continuing care will be removed.
- Mandatory isolation becomes a recommendation only.

Additional details on all restrictions and measures in place will be released prior to each step at alberta.ca/CovidMeasures.

Related information

- [COVID-19 public health actions](#)
- [COVID-19 info for Albertans](#)

Multimedia

- [Watch the news conference](#)
- [Listen to the news conference](#)

Les mesures de santé publique seront progressivement levées à l'échelle de la province alors que la cinquième vague de la COVID-19 s'estompe et que les pressions sur le système

de soins de santé s'amenuisent.

À compter du 8 février, l'Alberta s'engagera dans un plan prudent et avisé pour éliminer graduellement les mesures de santé publique. L'approche en trois étapes commencera par des activités à faible risque, tout en maintenant les protections pour le système de santé, y compris les établissements de soins continus.

Depuis le 8 février à 23 h 59, l'Alberta est passée à la première étape, qui comprend l'élimination du programme d'exemption des restrictions et des limites de capacité pour les endroits accueillant moins de 500 personnes, y compris les bibliothèques et les lieux de culte, et qui permet la consommation d'aliments et de boissons par un public assis pour les grands lieux d'événements et de divertissement. Le port obligatoire du masque pour les enfants et les jeunes à l'école, ainsi que pour les enfants de 12 ans et moins partout, prendra fin le 13 février à 23 h 59.

« Les deux dernières années ont considérablement nui à la santé globale des Albertains, ainsi qu'à leur bien-être social et économique. Maintenant que le pire de la cinquième vague est derrière nous et que nous avons atteint des niveaux élevés de vaccination, il est temps de passer à une approche équilibrée nous permettant de vivre avec la COVID-19 et de revenir à la normale. »

Jason Kenney, premier ministre de l'Alberta

« La vaste majorité des Albertains sont maintenant pleinement vaccinés. C'est un facteur essentiel qui nous permet de relâcher les restrictions, mais nous ne le ferons que dans des conditions démontrant un rétablissement de la capacité de notre système de santé. Les Albertains peuvent y contribuer en recevant toutes les doses de vaccin auxquelles ils ont droit. »

Jason Copping, ministre de la Santé

Les étapes subséquentes comprendront des changements en matière de télétravail, du port d'un masque, des limites de capacité pour les grandes salles et des limites concernant les rassemblements sociaux à l'intérieur, la dernière étape étant l'élimination des exigences d'isolement et des mesures liées à la COVID-19 dans les établissements de soins continus. La levée des restrictions se poursuivra dès que les pressions sur le système de soins de santé auront suffisamment diminué.

Première étape

En vigueur depuis le 8 février à 23 h 59 :

- Fin du Programme d'exemption des restrictions, ainsi que de la plupart des restrictions associées.
- Certaines règles particulières continueront de s'appliquer aux lieux de divertissement :
 - Élimination des restrictions sur la vente d'aliments et de boissons, et leur consommation par un public assis.
 - Maintien des restrictions sur les heures de fermeture, la vente d'alcool, la capacité des tables dans les restaurants et les activités interactives.

- Élimination des limites de capacité pour l'ensemble des entreprises, des lieux et des établissements - qu'il aient été ou non admissibles auparavant au programme d'exemption des restrictions -, sauf dans les cas suivants :
 - Les endroits pouvant accueillir de 500 à 1 000 personnes seront limités à 500 personnes.
 - Les endroits pouvant accueillir 1 000 personnes et plus seront limités à 50 % de leur capacité.

En vigueur à compter du 13 février à 23 h 59 :

- Fin du port obligatoire d'un masque pour les enfants et les jeunes à l'école.
- Fin du port obligatoire d'un masque pour les enfants de 12 ans et moins dans n'importe quel contexte.

Deuxième étape

À compter du 1^{er} mars :

- Élimination de toutes les exigences provinciales restantes pour les écoles (y compris le regroupement en cohortes).
- Fin du dépistage obligatoire avant les activités pour les adolescents.
- Élimination des limites de capacité pour tous les endroits.
- Élimination des limites pour les rassemblements sociaux.
- Élimination de l'obligation provinciale de porter un masque.
- Élimination du télétravail obligatoire.

Troisième étape

À déterminer en fonction de la poursuite à la baisse des tendances en matière d'hospitalisations

- Élimination des mesures liées à la COVID-19 dans les établissements de soins continus.
- L'isolement obligatoire deviendra seulement une recommandation.

D'autres détails sur l'ensemble des restrictions et des mesures en place seront annoncés avant la mise en œuvre de chaque étape sur le site alberta.ca/CovidMeasures.

Renseignements connexes

- [Mesures de santé publique contre la COVID-19](#) (en anglais seulement)
- [Renseignements sur la COVID-19 destinés aux Albertains](#) (en anglais seulement)

Multimédia

- [Regardez la conférence de presse](#) (en anglais seulement)

© 2022 Government of Alberta

Alberta.ca



News Releases



NewsRelease

February 11, 2022

MANITOBA ACCELERATING PLAN TO REDUCE PUBLIC HEALTH RESTRICTIONS BASED ON IMPROVING COVID-19 SITUATION

Provincewide Shift to Yellow (Caution) Level Under Pandemic Response System on Feb. 15: Premier

Watch news conference

Public health order update - February 11, 2022



With key COVID-19 indicators stabilizing or improving, Manitoba is moving forward with a plan to further reduce public health restrictions next week, Premier Heather Stefanson announced today, noting Manitoba will continue to make adjustments as needed in the coming weeks based on the guidance of public health officials, including requirements for proof of vaccination.

"I want to thank Manitobans who have made personal, professional and financial sacrifices over the past two years, and have done their part by getting vaccinated and following the fundamentals," said Stefanson. "It is because of Manitobans' collective efforts and dedication, compassion and willingness to protect one another that we are able to move forward once again to lift restrictions and allow Manitobans to get their lives back."

New public health orders will come into effect at 12:01 a.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 15 that will move all of Manitoba to the Yellow (Caution) level under the Pandemic Response System. Capacity limits will be eliminated in venues such as restaurants, licensed premises, entertainment venues, indoor and outdoor sporting events and casinos, as well as gatherings at private residences. Capacity limits will be removed for outdoor public gatherings but will be limited to 50 people indoors unless proof of vaccination is required. Young people ages 12 to 17 participating in indoor sports and recreation will no longer be required to provide proof of vaccination or recent testing. There are no changes to retail and personal services.

Connect now / Connexion directe

As of Feb. 15, close contacts of a person who tests positive for COVID-19 will no longer be required to self-isolate. Public health continues to recommend self-isolation for people who live in a household with others who have symptoms or tested positive for COVID-19 but it will no longer be required.

Additionally, public health will remove self-isolation requirements for individuals entering the province. However, anyone travelling from international destinations will continue to be required to meet requirements under the federal Quarantine Act. Public health orders restricting travel to northern Manitoba remain in place.

“Based on the information and data monitored by public health, we are seeing strong signals that the Omicron wave has peaked and is now having a reduced impact here in Manitoba,” said Dr. Brent Roussin, chief provincial public health officer. “As a result, it’s prudent to continue to reduce our public health restrictions. I want to remind Manitobans that this is an important time of transition and we still need to get vaccinated, wear a mask and do simple but important things like washing our hands and staying home when we are sick. We need to remain cautious about gathering sizes, even as we shift from public health rules to public health recommendations.”

Effective Feb. 15, schools will return to Yellow (Caution) under the Pandemic Response System, which requires cohorts in kindergarten to Grade 6. Masks are required indoors for staff and students but will not be required during physical education classes. Medical masks will be recommended but no longer required for school staff.

Schools will continue to send out community notification letters if public health officials have identified increased transmission or recommended remote learning for a class, cohort or entire school. The online dashboard will continue to post this information but will no longer include case numbers. Children, school staff and child-care staff will only be eligible for PCR testing if medically indicated, in line with eligibility criteria for all Manitobans.

The province plans to remove proof of vaccination requirements effective March 1. In some settings, such as personal care homes, shelters, and health-care facilities, public health officials have continued to work with facilities to notify close contacts. Effective March 8, this will no longer occur. Mask requirements and other restrictions will be lifted effective March 15.

For more information about COVID-19 and the pandemic response in Manitoba, visit manitoba.ca/covid19.

- 30 -

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ATTACHED

Backgrounder

Backgrounder-Changes to Public Health Orders -

https://www.gov.mb.ca/asset_library/en/newslinks/2022/BG-PHO_Changes_Feb_11-PR-HEA.pdf

manitoba.ca | 1-866-MANITOBA

Ontario Moving to Next Phase of Reopening on February 17

Improvements in key indicators allowing province to safely ease public health measures sooner

February 14, 2022

[Office of the Premier](#)

TORONTO — With key public health and health system indicators continuing to improve, the Ontario government, in consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health, is cautiously and gradually easing public health measures sooner, with the next phase of measures being eased on February 17, 2022 at 12:01 a.m.

“Given how well Ontario has done in the Omicron wave we are able to fast track our reopening plan,” said Premier Doug Ford. “This is great news and a sign of just how far we’ve come together in our fight against the virus. While we aren’t out of the woods just yet we are moving in the right direction.”

Last month, Ontario [released its plan](#) to follow a cautious and phased approach to lifting public health and workplace safety measures if health indicators continued to remain stable and improve. Positivity rates have fallen and new admissions to hospital and ICU have been declining week over week, signalling that the Omicron peak is behind us. Over the coming days and weeks, these trends are expected to continue, allowing the province to safely accelerate its timelines.

“Thanks to the province’s high vaccination rates and the continued sacrifices of Ontarians, we are now in a position where we can move forward in our plan earlier than anticipated,” said Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. “With hospitalizations and ICU admissions continuing to decline, we are committed to maintaining a gradual and cautious approach to protect our hospital capacity and ensure patients can access the care they need when they need it.”

Effective February 17, 2022

Ontario will further ease public health measures, including, but not limited to:

- Increasing social gathering limits to 50 people indoors and 100 people outdoors

- Increasing organized public event limits to 50 people indoors, with no limit outdoors
- Removing capacity limits in the following indoor public settings where proof of vaccination is required, including but not limited to:
 - Restaurants, bars and other food or drink establishments without dance facilities
 - Non-spectator areas of sports and recreational fitness facilities, including gyms
 - Cinemas
 - Meeting and event spaces, including conference centres or convention centres
 - Casinos, bingo halls and other gaming establishments
 - Indoor areas of settings that choose to opt-in to proof of vaccination requirements.
- Allowing 50 per cent of the usual seating capacity at sports arenas
- Allowing 50 percent of the usual seating capacity for concert venues and theatres
- Increasing indoor capacity limits to 25 per cent in the remaining higher-risk settings where proof of vaccination is required, including nightclubs, restaurants where there is dancing, as well as bathhouses and sex clubs
- Increasing capacity limits for indoor weddings, funerals or religious services, rites, or ceremonies to the number of people who can maintain two metres physical distance. Capacity limits are removed if the location opts-in to use proof of vaccination or if the service, rite, or ceremony is occurring outdoors.

Capacity limits in other indoor public settings, such as grocery stores, pharmacies, retail and shopping malls, will be maintained at, or increased to, the number of people who can maintain two metres physical distance.

In addition, as of 8:00 a.m. on Friday, February 18, 2022, Ontario is expanding booster dose eligibility to youth aged 12 to 17. Appointments can be booked through the [provincial booking system](#) and the Provincial Vaccine Contact Centre, as well as at [select pharmacies](#) administering the Pfizer vaccine. Appointments will be booked for approximately six months (168 days) after a second dose. To book an appointment online, individuals must be 12 years old at the time of appointment.

Effective March 1, 2022

Ontario intends to take additional steps to ease public health measures if public health and health system indicators continue to improve. This includes lifting capacity limits in all remaining indoor public settings.

Ontario will also lift proof of vaccination requirements for all settings at this time. Businesses and other settings may choose to continue to require proof of vaccination. Masking requirements will remain in place at this time, with a specific timeline to lift this measure to be communicated at a later date.

To manage COVID-19 over the long-term, public health units can deploy local and regional responses based on local context and conditions.

“Thanks to the efforts of Ontarians to help blunt the transmission of Omicron, our health care indicators suggest a general improvement in the COVID-19 situation in the province,” said Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health. “We are now in a position to lift more public health measures, but it is important to stay vigilant, as we don’t want to cause any further disruption to people’s everyday lives. We must continue to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 in our communities by following the measures in place and by vaccinating those who have not yet received their doses.”

Quick Facts

- Due to a steady decline in COVID-19 related hospitalizations and ICU admissions, on February 10, 2022, the government lifted Directive 2 to begin a gradual and cautious resumption of non-urgent and non-emergent surgeries and procedures across the province.
- Since Ontario entered modified Step Two, over 202,000 Ontarians have received a first dose and more than 2,575,000 Ontarians have received their booster.
- To further support the province’s cautious easing of public health measures, Ontario is expanding access to free rapid tests, with 5.5 million rapid tests to be distributed each week for eight weeks through pharmacies, grocery stores, and community partners in vulnerable communities.
- Effective January 4, 2022, the use of the enhanced vaccine certificate with QR code and the Verify Ontario app must be used in settings where proof of vaccination is required.
- Download your vaccine certificate by visiting <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/get-proof/>.
- To have your vaccine certificate mailed to you, call the Provincial Vaccine Contact Centre at 1-833-943-3900.

- On January 17, 2022, Health Canada approved the antiviral Paxlovid. Ontario received approximately 10,000 courses of treatment from the federal government in January, with additional allocations of more than 10,000 courses for February and 33,000 courses for March. [Eligibility is currently focused on adults with the highest risk of severe outcomes.](#)
 - In response to the highly transmissible Omicron variant, Ontario updated its COVID-19 testing and isolation guidelines. [Learn more](#) about what to do if you have symptoms or have been exposed to COVID-19.
-

Additional Resources

- [Ontario Expanding Access to Free Rapid Tests for General Public](#)
 - [Ontario Outlines Steps to Cautiously and Gradually Ease Public Health Measures](#)
 - [Proof of Vaccination Guidance under the Reopening Ontario \(A Flexible Response to COVID-19\) Act, 2020](#)
 - [All Ontarians 18+ Eligible for COVID-19 Booster Appointments at Three-Month Interval](#)
 - For public inquiries, please contact the Provincial Vaccine Contact Centre at 1-833-943-3900 (TTY for people who are deaf, hearing-impaired or speech-impaired: 1-866-797-0007).
 - For resources in multiple languages to help local communication efforts in responding to COVID-19, visit Ontario's [COVID-19 communication resources webpage](#).
 - Businesses that have questions about public health and workplace safety measures can call the Stop the Spread Business Information Line at 1-888-444-3659.
-

Related Topics

Government

Learn about the government services available to you and how government works. [Learn more](#)

Health and Wellness

Get help navigating Ontario's health care system and connecting with the programs or services you're looking for. [Learn more](#)

Media Contacts

Ivana Yelich

Premier's Office

Ivana.Yelich@ontario.ca

Alexandra Hilkene

Minister Elliott's Office

Alexandra.Hilkene@ontario.ca

Accessibility

Privacy

Contact us

© King's Printer for Ontario, 2012-2022



Living with Covid: Proof of Vaccination No Longer Required; Business Verifier App Discontinued

Released on February 14, 2022

As we transition to living with Covid, proof of vaccination or negative tests are no longer required in Saskatchewan businesses, workplaces and other venues. Beginning today, eHealth Saskatchewan is in the process of decommissioning the SK Vax Verifier app, which was used by businesses to scan QR codes for proof of vaccination.

The verifier app is no longer available for download by new users. Current users will be asked to delete the app from their device.

COVID-19 vaccination records are still included on your MySaskHealthRecord and can be printed or saved and viewed on your cell phone. The QR code is also still available on COVID-19 vaccination records through MySaskHealthRecord and through the SK Vax Wallet app (Apple and Google). QR codes and the Wallet app will continue to be available for the foreseeable future.

Saskatchewan will continue to make proof of vaccination records available to Saskatchewan residents for use where needed including for travel or use in other jurisdictions.

Other third party QR code reader apps are available for download but are not required in Saskatchewan. The apps must be SMART Health card compliant to read Saskatchewan QR codes.

Public Health Orders

The remaining public health orders requiring masking in indoor public spaces and mandatory five-day isolation for individuals with positive COVID-19 tests remain in effect until the end of day, February 27. All public health orders in Saskatchewan will be removed as of February 28, 2022.

Continue to Protect Yourself and Your Community

Residents are encouraged to continue to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 including wearing your best mask, taking advantage of free rapid testing, regular handwashing, staying home when ill, and getting vaccinated, including your third/booster dose as soon as you are eligible. Booster/third dose eligibility now includes everyone 12 years of age and older.

Information about Saskatchewan Health Authority vaccine clinics and participating pharmacies is available at [Saskatchewan.ca/COVID-19](https://saskatchewan.ca/COVID-19).

-30-

For more information, contact:

Health

Regina

Phone: 306-787-4083

Email: media@health.gov.sk.ca

Contact Us

[View all contacts in the directory](#)

 We need your feedback to improve [saskatchewan.ca](#). [Help us improve](#)